

# The Democratic Banner.

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## OFFENSIVE ASSUMED BY TRIPLE ALLIANCE

### Big Engagement Extends From Mons To Luxemburg Frontier

#### Menace German Po- sition on Meuse.

#### GREAT BATTLE RAGING

#### May Not Reach Decisive Stage For Several Days.

#### CHARLEROI CENTER OF ATTACK

Battle Line Extends From Ghent to Walcourt. Hundreds of Thousands of Men Being Engaged—Berlin Reports Reverses to French and Russians, While Paris Admits Defeat in Lorraine—Russians Claim Successes in East Prussia and Austria.

London, Aug. 24.—The big engagement in Belgium is along a great line extending from Mons to the Luxemburg frontier. The French have everywhere taken the offensive and their action is going on regularly in unison with action by the English army.

In the official communique from Paris it is said that in this, the first effective movement of the French, they have before them practically the entire German army in active and reserve formations. The field of operations, especially upon the French right, is wooded and difficult, and it is believed that the battle will last several days. Charleroi is the center of the attack.

At Namur the Germans are making a great effort against the forts, which are resisting energetically.

The Belgian army is entirely concentrated within the Antwerp fortifications.

The battle line now extends from a point south of Ghent, southeast to Hal, continues in the same direction to Charleroi and then turns to the southwest to Walcourt.

The British government gave orders for the establishment of auxiliary hospitals for the wounded of the allies. It is not expected that this great battle, of greater magnitude than any of the famous battles of history, will reach a decisive stage for some days.

A dispatch from Charleroi to the Paris Temps says: "On Friday German troops from Echezee turned a battery of siege guns on the Namur forts, which answered so precisely that the German battery was demolished and ceased firing after less than an hour."

The same correspondent telegraphed later from Jeumont: "The Germans attacked Charleroi Saturday morning, sending shells from the outskirts of the upper town on the station and the most visible parts of the lower town. They were trying to force a passage of the Sambre bridges. The cannon firing was audible from Charleroi. Thus the battle which has so long been expected was begun."

#### Russians Advancing.

Russian troops are pushing forward toward Koenigsberg, the most important city in eastern Germany, following their victory at Gumbinnen. The Russians have occupied Insterburg, thirty miles inside the German frontier. Three army corps arrived at Insterburg to reinforce the czar's troops in their invasion. The Russians captured eight German cannon and many prisoners. On the Galician front the Austrians have suffered heavy losses. In engagements at Gorodok and Krasnik the Russians captured six officers and 250 German soldiers.

General Von Arnim, commander of

the German troops now occupying Brussels, issued a notice warning the population to refrain from aggressive acts against the troops. He demands of the city lodging and food supplies. Brussels remains quiet and dignified. The cafes are still open. Two-thirds of the shops are shut. According to the officers the objective of the German troops is Mons, but the soldiers say that certain regiments are bound for Antwerp and the northwest. The official British news bureau issued the following statement: "The admiralty wishes to draw attention to the previous warnings to neutrals of the dangers of traversing the North sea. The Germans are continuing their practice of scattering mines indiscriminately upon the ordinary trade routes. In consequence neutral ships, no matter what their destination, are exposed to great danger."

Zeppelin Airship Destroyed.  
Paris, Aug. 24.—The French war ministry issued the following: "Zeppelin No. 8 has been brought down and destroyed."

#### LEADER OF ALLIES

General Joffre Engages Kaiser's  
Invading Army in Belgium.



Photo by American Press Association.

#### GERMANS REPORT VICTORIES

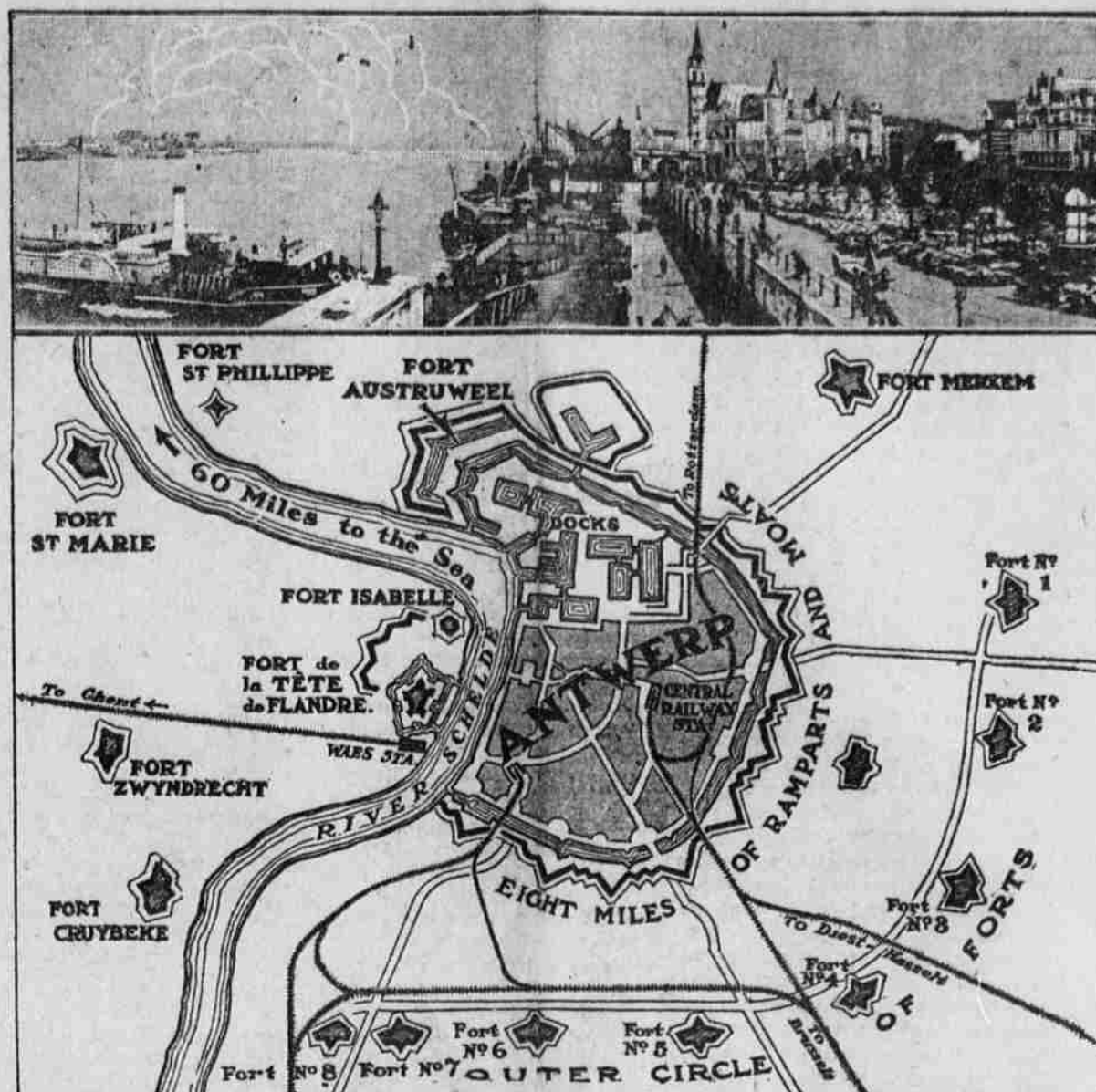
French Attacks Checked and 8,000  
Russians Captured.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The German embassy here received its first reports from Germany since the cutting of the Azores cable, nearly three weeks ago. These dispatches came by wireless to Sayville, L. I., which is a German owned station. Three dispatches were received in all, two reporting victories for the German forces and the third stating that Germany had made no reply to the Japanese ultimatum.

The first dispatch was as follows: "The German guns since Friday evening have been thundering at Namur. Very soon new Zeppelins will be ready for work on the Belgian coast and the English channel. North of Metz the German army under Crown Prince William is advancing on both sides of Longwy and has defeated and forced the French back. The army under the Bavarian Crown Prince Rupprecht, which, as already reported, won a victory at Lorraine, is pursuing the beaten enemy and has reached Lunéville, whence it is continuing forward today."

The second dispatch read: "Strong Russian forces have been advancing against Gumbinnen. The First German army corps turned against them Aug. 20, checked the Russians and secured 8,000 prisoners and eight guns. A German cavalry division took 500 prisoners after fighting two Russian cavalry divisions. The French attempt to invade upper Alsace was frustrated by the defenders. In Lorraine the French army is retiring from the frontier."

## WHAT FATE AWAITS ANTWERP? HER STRONG DOUBLE LINE OF FORTS READY FOR GERMANS



This illustration shows a general view of the Antwerp water front and a map of the double line of forts surrounding that city. After the Bel-

gians evacuated Brussels, leaving it for the Germans to occupy without a battle, it was believed the next big fight would be near Antwerp. If the

Germans undertake to capture that city they will find themselves opposed by very strong fortifications. Antwerp is the temporary capital of Belgium.

#### RUSSIANS ACTIVE

Further Successes in East Prussia  
Reported by Paris.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The French war ministry's official bulletin says: "The Russian army has had further important successes near Gumbinnen, in eastern Prussia. The army has now taken up a position on a line extending north and south from Gumbinnen through Goldap to Lyck, at a distance of about forty kilometers from the frontier. They have overturned three army corps and have captured some more cannon and railroad rolling stock and have made quantities of prisoners. They have taken both Goldap and Lyck."

"The German maritime commerce is in a bad way. A London dispatch informs us that German commerce has been reduced to a state of inactivity by the operations of British cruisers in different parts of the world."

#### Germans' Strategic Move.

Rotterdam, Holland, Aug. 24.—Soon after leaving Brussels and making a feint toward Ghent, the Germans suddenly turned toward the southwest against Lille. German strategists regard this move, together with the march on Valenciennes, as a surprise for the allies, and believe that it will oblige them to change their front.

#### FRENCH REPORT REVERSE

Troops Operating in Lorraine Forced  
to Fall Back.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The Temps prints a summary of the war situation which says:

"Our troops in Lorraine, who were violently attacked by far more numerous forces, have fallen back, leaving prisoners and some guns in the enemy's hands. We unhesitatingly affirm that there is nothing serious, nothing disturbing in any form in this movement. The chief German forces are in Belgium. If we are victorious in the great battle which has already commenced there, the Germans who have penetrated Lorraine will be rapidly withdrawn. Even an unfavorable result of the first battle need not discourage us."

#### Money For Belgium.

Paris, Aug. 24.—France and England have decided to advance \$100,000,000 to Belgium, half of the amount to be furnished by each of the two countries. Belgium has been officially informed of the decision.

#### Austria Wants Italy In.

Rome, Aug. 24.—It is reported here that Austria is exerting all the pressure possible to force Italy into the present war on the side of Germany and Austria, thus maintaining the triple alliance.

#### ITALIAN ARMY MOBILIZING

Relations Between Italy and Austria  
at Breaking Point.

Rome, Aug. 24.—Relations between Italy and Austria are almost at the breaking point. Italy's army probably will complete mobilization by Aug. 27. Austria is declared to be exerting all possible pressure to force Italy to enter the war on the side of the now disrupted triple alliance. France and Russia have sent, respectively, Theophile Delcasse and Count Witte, their most distinguished diplomats, to counteract the Austrian solicitations. Austria is reported to have lost several warships in a naval engagement in the Adriatic sea. Greece is reported to be sending troops into Serbia to fight the Austrians.

#### French Take Offensive.

Paris, Aug. 24.—Official statements made say that French forces are taking the offensive at Charleroi and are pushing forward to check the German advance toward Dinant and Lille. According to the French official communique these French operations are meeting with success.

#### Servians Claim Great Victory.

Rome, Aug. 24.—The Servian army, according to official announcements from Nish, has gained a great victory over the Austrians at Mount Pazar and the river Zardar. On the northern front there is only a feeble bombardment of Belgrade. The Servian artillery has destroyed three Austrian steamships.

#### Supplies For German Cruiser.

Philadelphia, Aug. 24.—Steamers arriving here reported the North German Lloyd steamship Brandenburg had met a German cruiser just outside the Delaware breakwater, presumably the Bremen, and was transferring coal and general stores.

#### Kills German Officer.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The son of ex-Premier Clemenceau, now with the French army in Belgium, has shot and killed a German officer in a fierce hand-to-hand encounter and himself was wounded in the thigh.

#### Wood Alcohol Kills Two.

Steuenville, O., Aug. 24.—James Caltan and Thomas Conant died here from drinking wood alcohol, which, it is alleged, was stolen. Two other young men are reported seriously ill and may die.

#### Chicago Stormswept.

Chicago, Aug. 24.—Chicago was swept by a heavy rainstorm. For half an hour the sky was one continuous flame of lightning and many buildings were struck.

## STANDARD OF REVOLT AGAIN SEEN IN MEXICO

### Tenure of Carranza's Adminis- tration Problematical.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, Aug. 24.—A peaceful settlement of the interna-

lairs of Mexico seems more remote now than at any time since the overthrow of Porfirio Diaz. General Carranza, as Constitutional leader, occupies the president's palace in Mexico City, but the tenure of his administration is problematical. Already the standard of revolt has been raised in many places, and to those who have watched the trend of developments recently there is the strongest doubt that the new regime can be maintained for any length of time. All dispatches sent out of Mexico City are subjected to a prohibitive censorship and the mention of the name of General Villa is not allowed in any news matter sent out of the capital. This would seem to indicate that the talk of a friendly agreement between Carranza and the general of the north is without foundation.

While the dispatches sent from the capital have described the triumphal entry of Carranza into Mexico City, responsible persons arriving here say that the event elicited no enthusiasm on the part of the Mexican public.

#### Exempt From Civil Service.

Columbus, Aug. 24.—Unskilled labor employed in the state highway department will for a time be exempt from the noncompetitive examinations of the state civil service commission. A decision to this effect was reached and announced in a letter to State Highway Commissioner James R. Marker by S. A. Hoskins, president of the civil service commission.

#### Father Dead in Wagon.

Lancaster, O., Aug. 24.—Andrew Wilburn, forty, of Logan, was found dead in a wagon on the edge of the city, while his 45-year-old son watched over the body. The boy said that someone had struck his father over the head. Examination failed to reveal any mark from a blow, however.

#### Charge Against Woman.

Bellefontaine, O., Aug. 24.—Mrs. Ida Dixon, forty-two, is in jail here, being held to the grand jury on a charge of having taken a \$500 diamond ring from Dr. Frederick Waterbury, who owns a hotel at Indian Lake park.

## EACH TO ADOPT A PLATFORM

Convention of Three Parties at  
Columbus Tomorrow.

### ALL CANDIDATES TO TAKE PART

Campbell Will Preside Over the Democratic Gathering, Fess Over the Republican and Sullivan Over the Progressives — Prohibition and Woman Suffrage the Big Issues Before Republicans and Democrats.

Columbus, Aug. 24.—This city will tomorrow entertain three state platform conventions of the Democratic, Progressive and Republican parties. There will be upward of 1,300 delegates in the city, consisting of candidates for state offices, candidates for members of the general assembly, chairmen of county central and county executive committees, and members of the state central and state executive committees.

The Democratic state convention will meet at Memorial hall tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. James E. Campbell will be chairman and Percy A. Walling of Circleville secretary.

The Republican meeting will be held at 10 a. m. at the Southern theater. Congressman S. E. Fess is to preside and Malcolm Jennings will be secretary.

The Progressives will gather at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium at 11:45 and John L. Sullivan of East Liverpool will be chairman and C. L. Thurber of Columbus secretary.

Resolutions will be taken by the three conventions and the big events of the day will come off in the afternoon.

#### Congressmen to Attend.

Attending these conventions will be the respective party leaders from every nook and corner of Ohio. There will be present all three candidates for the United States senatorship, all three candidates for governor, as well as three candidates for every other place on the state ticket. It is expected that all of these candidates will have an opportunity of speaking to the crowds who are certain to attend these meetings, while the committees on credentials, resolutions, etc., are making their reports.

All of the Ohio delegation in Washington, both Democratic and Republican, will be in Columbus to attend the conventions and may be given an opportunity of addressing the conventions.

The Duckworth club of Cincinnati is coming in a special train with their own band and will help enliven the day. The Republicans and Progressives are not likely to lag behind and will arrange for music of their own.

Preliminary meetings will be held by the central and executive committees of all three parties tonight, when a part at least of the program for the conventions, which has not yet been decided upon, will be determined. The nominations having all been made, the big events of the conventions will be the platforms, for on these the candidates must stand.

#### Two Big Issues.

The two big issues will be woman's suffrage and the temperance issue. Large and active delegations representing each of the causes will attend the respective conventions, arguing that they be favored in the platform. National issues will be considered and discussed.

A final effort to induce the Republican and Democratic state conventions to endorse equal suffrage in their platforms will be made tonight, when an open air demonstration will be held on the ground surrounding the Capitol, to which the delegates of all parties will be invited.

Dr. Washington Gladden will preside at the meeting on the west front of the building. The speakers will be Arthur L. Garford, the Progressive nominee for United States senator; Speaker Charles L. Swain of Cincinnati, representing the Democratic support of the movement; and Charles E. Becker of Columbus, in the name of the Socialists. Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton, president of the Ohio Suffrage association, also will be numbered among the orators. Resolutions will be named to appear before the Democratic and Republican committees on resolutions.

Wayne B. Wheeler, superintendent of the Ohio Anti-Saloon league, made a statement saying the league expected all conventions to declare against the wet's proposal. The league, he said, would not demand endorsement of the pending statewide prohibition amendment.

## DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

### Japan to Attack Her Chinese Holding.

#### ULTIMATUM IGNORED

#### Mikado Orders Action When Berlin Spurns His Note.

#### KIAUCHAU JAPAN'S OBJECTIVE

German Territory in China to Be Attacked at Once by the Oriental Power's Army and Navy—Operations to Be Restricted to Mainland of China and the China Sea—Tokyo to Make Public Her Correspondence With England.

Tokyo, Aug. 24.—Japan began war on Germany Sunday with an order to the Japanese army and navy to capture Kiauchau, Germany's Chinese possession, immediately.

Official news of the situation of the Japanese fleet and transports is lacking, but because of the preparations which have been in progress since Japan sent her ultimatum to the Kaiser's government last Sunday, it is believed that everything was ready for the attack on Kiauchau when the time limit of the ultimatum expired last night, and that the attack already has begun.

It is reported here that Count Okuma will make public the correspondence which passed between Japan and Great Britain regarding Japan's position in the European war, and this will show that Great Britain asked Japan's aid in the far east and approved of her action against Germany.

The Japanese expeditionary forces sent to Kiauchau are under the command of Vice Admiral Kaminura.

The Japanese rescript which has been issued adds this command of the emperor to the formal declaration: "We command our army and navy to carry on hostilities with all their strength and we command our competent authorities to put forth every effort in pursuance of their duties to obtain the national aim within the limits of the law of nations."

Count Von Rex, the German ambassador to Japan, received his passports and will sail for America.

Germany's interests in Japan will be looked after by the American ambassador.

While there is not the same enthusiasm in Japan over the war with Germany that there was over the Russo-Japanese war, the action of the Japanese government meets with the approval of the nation.

Japanese operations will be confined to the mainland of China and the China sea.

Saburo Shimada, a member of the parliamentary opposition, in a speech in parliament said that he believed that Japan did not desire to keep Kiauchau and that it was her policy to prevent any disturbance in China. "The retaining of Kiauchau by Japan," the member said, "would involve the danger of a revolution in China and of incurring the ill will of the United States."

#### GERMANS DEFY JAPS

Well Prepared to Defend the Territory of Kiauchau.

Tsingtau, China, Aug. 24.—German preparation for defense either of Tsingtau and the territory of Kiauchau is complete. News of German victories in Europe has been circulated and has increased the confidence of the defending forces. The governor of Kiauchau, Meyer Waldeck, has issued a proclamation, saying: "If the enemy wishes Tsingtau, he must come and take it. He will find us at our post. We look confidently into the future and are well prepared to receive the enemy." The German emperor sent a message to the governor on Aug. 19 ordering him to defend Tsingtau to the utmost.